

# Recycled Art

There are many ways to use responsibility when taking care of our community and school. This project will focus on using recycled items to create a class designed piece of art.

**Kindness Concept(s)**

Responsibility, Kindness

**Project Timeframe**

25-30 minutes

**Required Materials**

- Recycled Items
- Basic Art Supplies
- String

**Step 1:**

Allow 1-2 weeks to collect recycled items. Send home the note below to parents to gather family donated items as well. Some options might include cereal boxes, toilet paper and paper towel rolls, clean cans, milk containers, and cardboard boxes. As a class, generate ideas on what type of items would be acceptable and which should be avoided (such as dirty food containers, items that held meat, etc.).

**Step 2:**

Sort the items by material. This is a big component to recycling. Explain that when our recycled items go to the processing plant, they must be sorted first. The three main categories are plastics, metals, and cardboard.

**Step 3:**

Decide as a class what type of art you would like to make. You may wish to work with the art teacher to complete the project in conjunction with the current art focus.

**Step 4:**

Create art! The sky's the limit. There are no rules as long as you are using recycled items.

**Step 5:**

Place your sculpture in a public place. You may want to include a sign that explains how this shows responsibility. Example: Our first grade class is responsible for this sculpture. We saved our recycled items, worked together, and created this sculpture to remind our school to choose responsibly!

(see sample parent / guardian letter below)



DESIGNATED BY CASEL  
AS A RECOMMENDED  
PROGRAM FOR SOCIAL  
AND EMOTIONAL  
LEARNING.

The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) has been reviewing evidence-based SEL programs since 2003. Kindness in the Classroom® meets CASEL's SElect Program and is included in the CASEL Guide to Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs.

Kindness in the Classroom® met or exceeded all of CASEL's criteria for high-quality SEL programming. Kindness in the Classroom® received CASEL's highest designation for high-quality SEL programming.

<https://casel.org/guide/kindness-in-the-classroom/>

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We have been learning about responsibility this past week. As an end project, our class is creating a very unique sculpture out of recycled items. We need your help! If you could send ANY of the following items in to school, it would be very helpful.

Cardboard Items:

- Boxes
- Broken down cardboard
- Cereal Boxes
- Toilet Paper/Paper Towel Rolls

Plastics:

- Milk Jugs
- Water Bottles

Metal:

- Soda Cans
- Empty Canned Goods
- Ball of Aluminum Foil

Please make sure the items you send in are clean and dry. We do not want to invite any outdoor rodents (like mice) into our classroom! We will be making our recycled sculpture on \_\_\_\_\_, so please have all of your donations sent in by \_\_\_\_\_.

Our finished sculpture will be placed by the \_\_\_\_\_ for all to see.

Make sure you swing by or check online to take a look at all of our hard work!

Sincerely,